A.D. 1579.

thence taken to Lombardy to be equipped and sent on to Flanders.

—From the usual place, 23 April 1579.

Copy: Fr. $1\frac{3}{4}$ pp. [Holl. and Fl. XI. 110.]

April 27.

662. 'From Her Majesty to the Prince of Orange, on behalf of the merchants of Ipswich, 27 April 1579.'

You will remember how about two years ago some of our subjects, merchants of Ipswich, were captured by the fleet of Holland and Zealand on its way back from Spain and taken to Flushing, contrary to all law divine and human. Now, though we might justly have taken vengeance for this as for a manifest wrong done to us, yet, remaining constant in our ancient desire for the good and safety of those provinces, we were content for the time to wink at the fault, and postpone our just wrath to the advancement of their affairs, which would have suffered to no small extent if we had taken up the case of our subjects in good earnest; consenting to the agreement by which the provinces were to pay them in four years the sum you wot of as compensation, though it was not very advantageous for them. Yet our subjects complain to us that though by their agents they have made demand in Zealand for the payment of the fourth part, due in October last, they have not profited one little bit, but rather have received rude enough answers and no hope of satisfaction. This seems to us so strange, and shows so openly the small respect which those of Holland and Zealand have for us (seeing that instead of being the more prompt to give satisfaction for having been thereto invited by our kindness they have become over proud and insolent), that for the sake of our honour and the care we have for our subjects we can no longer put off taking steps which may chance to be a little rough upon them, if they do not prevent us betimes by taking order for the due satisfaction of our subjects. We beg you to set your hand to this with all your might, that we may be able to continue our good affection to the provinces and refrain from attempting aught to their prejudice, which we should be very sorry to be compelled to do. We have thought good to apprise you first, as one who we think would not wish to give an opening to the inconveniences that may ensue.

Copy. Fr. 2 pp. [For. E.B. Misc. II.]

663. The QUEEN to the STATES OF HOLLAND AND ZEALAND.

April 27.

Same purport as the last; rather more peremptory. 'If you do not very soon see to giving them better satisfaction than heretofore we shall be obliged to consider of remedies therefore, and for the maintenance of our honour, such as will haply not be wholly agreeable to you. Wherefore you had better take steps,' etc.

Copy. Fr. 2 pp. [For. E.B. Misc. II.]

1579. (prob. first 664. 'A note whereby it may appear that the English nation are used in the Hanse Towns worse than other strangers.'

About the end of 1577 the magistrates of Lubeck called before them all Englishmen there resident, and others come from Hamburg,